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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/641,335 | 08/18/2000 | Nobuhisa Yoda | 016907/1102 | 7051 |
| 22428 | 7590 | 11/17/2005 | EXAMINER PARK, CHAN S | |
| FOLEY AND LARDNER LLP SUITE 500 3000 K STREET NW WASHINGTON, DC 20007 | | | ART UNIT 2622 | PAPER NUMBER |

DATE MAILED: 11/17/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/641,335

Applicant(s)

YODA ET AL.

Examiner

CHAN S. PARK

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 August 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 9, 14-16 and 21-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 9, 14-16 and 21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 22 and 23 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 8/30/05 has been entered.

Response to Amendment

2. Applicant's amendment was received on 8/30/05, and has been entered and made of record. Currently, **claims 1-7, 9, 14-16 and 21-23** are pending.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to **claims 1-7, 9, 14-16 and 21-23** have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Objections

4. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities:

Line 15, "information input" should be -- the information input --; and

Line 16, "information stored" should be -- the information stored --.

5. With respect to claim 14, arguments analogous to those presented for claim 1, are applicable.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-7, 9, 14-16 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sugiura et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,798,905 (hereinafter Sugiura) in view of Maniwa.

6. With respect to claim 1, Sugiura discloses a document process system comprising:

a scan process section which reads documents, photographs and drawings, so as to obtain an electronic document (col. 7, lines 56-57);

a scan parameter recognition section which recognizes information (resolution used in scan process) regarding a scan condition including information required for

executing a division/coupling process with respect to the electronic document obtained at the scan process section (col. 14, lines 36-50 and note that the orientation detection processing is used in the division/coupling process in fig. 5);

a scan parameter database which stores the information recognized by the scan parameter recognition section (the database is an inherent feature since the information regarding the resolution in the scan process is required for the resolution conversion);

a division/coupling process section which executes a division/coupling process with respect to the electronic document by referring to the information stored in the scan parameter database (col. 9, lines 2-5); and

an input section which inputs information, when information input is required during execution of the division/coupling process at the division/coupling process section (col. 8, lines 41-47).

It is noted that the complete division/coupling process requires the resolution conversion and the orientation detection according to Sugiura (col. 16, lines 53-60).

Sugiura, however, does not disclose explicitly a register process section which registers processed document data.

Maniwa, the same field of endeavor of the scanning and printing art, discloses a document process system comprising:

a scan process section which reads documents, photographs and drawings, so as to obtain an electronic document (col. 6, lines 43-50);

a scan parameter recognition section which recognizes information regarding a scan condition (col. 14, line 30);

a scan parameter database which stores the information recognized by the scan parameter recognition section (the database is an inherent feature since the information is required for the further image processing); and

a register process section which registers processed document data, when the image processing is executed by the system based on the scan parameter and the input information inputted by an input section (col. 20, lines 38-56).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement the register process section of Maniwa into the system of Sugiura.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to store the image processed, divided/coupled image to a selected location in the network.

Furthermore, one would have been motivated to incorporate the double-sided scanning process into the system of Sugiura so that the double-sided document can also be used in the division/coupling process.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Sugiura with Maniwa to obtain the invention as specified in claim 1.

7. With respect to claim 2, Sugiura discloses the document process system, wherein said input section is provided with a display for inputting a condition for dividing the read electronic document and reconstructing the electronic document (fig. 3). Also, read col. 14, lines 25-35 of Maniwa.

8. With respect to claim 3, Sugiura discloses the document process system, wherein said division/coupling process section divides the electronic document read by

a plurality of operations, on the basis of the condition input by the input section (col. 6, lines 1-6). Also, read col. 21, lines 59-62 of Maniwa.

9. With respect to claim 4, Sugiura discloses the document process system, wherein said division/coupling process section comprises a division process means (col. 9, lines 2-5), a division set process means (fig. 3), and a division inquire process section (fig. 3 & col. 16, lines 22-26).

10. With respect to claim 5, Sugiura discloses the document process system, wherein said division set process means sets division information on the basis of the condition input by the input section (col. 9, lines 2-5).

11. With respect to claim 6, Sugiura discloses the document process system, wherein said division process means divides the electronic document on the basis of the division information set by the division set process means (fig. 3).

12. With respect to claim 7, Sugiura discloses the document process system, wherein said division inquire process means executes a process to prompt information input where the information input is required at a time of a process execution in the division process means (col. 16, lines 22-26).

13. With respect to claim 9, Maniwa discloses the document process system, wherein the register process section executes document registration to a predetermined one of a plurality of document management systems on the basis of the electronic document and document registration information (col. 20, lines 38-56).

14. With respect to claim 21, Sugiura discloses the document system, further comprising a division/coupling buffer, wherein the electronic document divided by the

division/coupling process means is stored in the division/coupling buffer as a plurality of separate and distinct electronic documents (col. 11, lines 34-46). It is noted that the divided/coupled document is managed separately and distinctly for the later printing process.

15. With respect to claim 14, arguments analogous to those presented for claim 1, are applicable.

16. With respect to claim 15, Sugiura discloses the document process system, wherein said division/coupling process means couples the electronic document read by a plurality of operations, on the basis of the condition input by the input means ('2 in 1' or '1-sided -> 2-sided' in fig. 3).

17. With respect to claim 16, Sugiura discloses the document process system, wherein said division/coupling process means comprises a coupling process means (fig. 4), a coupling set process means (fig. 3), and a coupling inquire process means (col. 16, lines 22-26). It is inherent/obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that the scan parameter is required for the coupling process.

Allowable Subject Matter

18. Claims 22 and 23 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Contact Information

19. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CHAN S. PARK whose telephone number is (571) 272-7409. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8am-4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles can be reached on (571) 272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

csp
November 14, 2005

Chan S. Park
Examiner
Art Unit 2622



JOSEPH R. POKRZYWA
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2622

